



William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**Department of Mental Health**  
550 S. Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90020



Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Kathleen Piché  
213-738-3700

[kpiche@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kpiche@dmh.lacounty.gov)

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige

213-351-5297

[kzarsadiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kzarsadiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov)

### **SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH JOINS LACDMH & DPW FOR GROUNDBREAKING OF NEW ARCADIA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER**

*New mental health center will help more families and individuals in the San Gabriel Valley.*

**Los Angeles, CA** – Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, representing the Fifth District, joined the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) to break ground on the new Arcadia Mental Health Center located on Live Oak Avenue, adjacent to the current facility. The ceremony took place on Monday, October 20, 2014.

“It’s a pleasure to be here for this event,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “This is money well-spent because we are helping the community.”

The groundbreaking kicks off construction on the long-awaited and brand-new Arcadia Mental Health Center, funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). It replaces the current building. Once the new facility is complete by next fall (September 2015), the old building will be destroyed and the land will be used as a parking lot. The new center will be 12,000 square feet and will serve up to 2,800 people in the surrounding area.

“We finally arrived at the day that change has come,” explained LACDMH Director Marvin Southard. “We are now doing what we can to build a new facility to achieve the hope, wellness and recovery that the community deserves.”

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department’s mission -- enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community’s capacity to support recovery and resiliency – is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.

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